

Agricultural.

Fattening Animals.

This is a subject not generally understood by the great mass of farmers throughout the various bearings. All know they can fatten a hog or cow by feeding grain or vegetable enough; but as to the best, cheapest, and most profitable mode among many people, it is not known. As at this time of the year more attention is paid to the fattening of animals, than at any other time, a few hints with regard to it, will not be wholly lost.

Animals intended for the butcher should be kept quiet. They should have no more exercise than is necessary for their health, as more than this calls for a greater amount of food, while the process of fattening is delayed. Animals should be fed regularly with a proper amount of proper food. Should they not be fed at regular intervals, it will tend to make them uneasy and discontented, and they will not thrive. When they are fed with apples or pumpkins, it should be in their season, and not when they have lost their goodness by decay or frost. This rule may always be observed, that the least nutritious articles should be fed first, and the most nutritive afterwards. Of the root crops, for fattening purposes, potatoes stand first, carrots next, and rutabagas, mangel-wurzels and turnips follow in their order. Of grain, wheat is first, Indian corn, peas and barley are the next. Probably more corn is used than any other grain, especially for swine; it seems to be peculiarly adapted for the fattening of pork. There is a great gain in having it ground, cooked and scalded. No grain should be fed without one or both of these being done, as animals are more quiet and contented, and therefore gain flesh much faster. I am confident that food as much better for swine and cattle, for being cooked, as it is for man. When animals are first put up for fattening, care should be taken that grain of great nutritive properties should be fed with caution, as the appetite is generally great, and over-feeding them with such grain will hurt them. The best plan that I know of, is to mix lighter grains and have them ground together. Corn meal possesses great nutritive properties, and animals will fatten faster on it than almost any other grain; but it will not answer to feed them wholly on this for a great length of time. Animals when full fed upon meal, sometimes become dyspeptic, a disease similar to that sometimes affecting our own species. Hence we see the propriety, and frequently the necessity, of having the corn ground, "cob and all." By this means the nutriment is diffused through a greater bulk, lays lightly in the stomach, and is thoroughly digested. This consideration more particularly applies to cattle than to swine; for the reason that animals which do not ruminate, or chew the cud, are better adapted for taking their food in a concentrated form. But still I say "grind your corn and cob together, and cook it well, and you will be doubly repaid for all your trouble."

It is an excellent thing to give animals a variety of food, as health is promoted by it. I have found the following to be excellent: one part corn, one part barley, one part peas, all ground together and mixed with boiled potatoes, pumpkins or apples. It is well to have this mixture slightly fermented, or soured by dairy slop. Swine appear to like it better, and the pork will be as good. The health of swine is also promoted by an occasional supply of soap-suds mixed with their regular food, but no brine in which there has been salt-petre, should ever be permitted to be given. Sweet-herb also should be soured before it is given to swine. To sum it all up, let animals have but little exercise; feed them regularly, the lightest food first, the strongest last, grind and cook all grain; also cook vegetables fruit, feed a variety of the grain and vegetable kinds, slightly fermented, &c. Lastly, animals should be kept warm in cold weather, and should have plenty of air in hot weather.

Now if these rules are followed, and these hints remembered and heeded, the object and aim of the writer will be accomplished.—*Dollar Newspaper.*

Fall Plowing.

It is said that the lands in the Sciota Valley, Ohio, which have yielded large crops of corn for many years in succession, without being manured, are able to sustain this enormous draft in consequence of the fineness of the soil; all its component parts being as fine as flour. We believe there are other causes, but if this is the principal one, what an important lesson it teaches us, with regard to our lands. The autumn plowing of stubble ground is not generally practised by our farmers. Some object, because they say, when the land is light the wind blows off the fine particles, and a portion of the richest part is lost; another says the labor is lost, because the same field requires to be plowed again in the spring before planting. But if pulverization is so important, it will far over balance these objections, admitting that they are valid, which we are not inclined to do.

We believe the atmosphere to be the great store-house of fertilizers, and ready at all times to impart them to such parts of the earth as are ready to receive them. If the surface is smooth, hard and crusty, it cannot catch the gasses as they pass, or imbibe the dews and rain with their rich ammonia; they pass on to a more genial soil, where the doors are open to let them in, and where they find friends and agreeable occupation.

We believe a corn or grain field well-plowed in the fall, and turned up to the kindly influence of the sun and air, to be equal to a moderate manuring, taken in connection with the decaying stubble that is turned under by the operation. Sward lands may also be plowed with advantage in the fall, as there is a great weight of succulent grass on the surface; this being turned under becomes a "bank" upon which the plants will draw with profit.

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manner. They also have a large stock of

clocks and watches, and are prepared to

repair and regulate them at short notice.

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Gold Pens and Pencils,

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